

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

System and methods for propagating error status over an error checking and correcting (ECC) protected channel. A first device receives data and an error status associated with the data. The first device generates check bits for the data based on a first ECC code and combines the check bits with the data to form one or more code words. The first device sends the code words across the channel where the first device inserts a triple error into a nibble of at least one codeword sent if the error status indicated an uncorrectable error. A second device connected to the channel receives the code words sent across the channel. The second device detects triple errors within a nibble of any code word and any other single error in the code word using a second ECC code, where the second ECC code is the first ECC code with columns for check bits inserted.